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LETTER DATED 27 OCTOBER 1993 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I should like to inform you that, in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Security Council of the United Nations, the leaders of the Republic of Tajikistan are taking all the necessary measures to normalize the situation in the country.

However, efforts to stabilize the situation in Tajikistan are being hindered by continued tension along the Tajik-Afghan border. In the adjacent territory of Afghanistan, foreign instructors are training armed bands, which carry out regular armed incursions into Tajikistan. There have been human casualties. The humanitarian situation also remains critical.

The Government of Tajikistan is convinced that the continued tension on the Tajik-Afghan border is a serious threat to regional and international peace and security and requires the Security Council's close attention. We appreciate the efforts of the Afghan authorities to improve the situation on the border with Tajikistan, which includes measures to halt violations of the border from Afghan territory. At the same time and in the light of the present circumstances, we consider it extremely important for the Security Council to urge all interested parties to refrain from any actions that might lead to a further escalation of the conflict and, in particular, to refrain from training armed opposition formations in the territory of the other State.

The Government of Tajikistan has repeatedly expressed its readiness to cooperate with all social forces of the country with a view to achieving civil harmony and a comprehensive political solution to the conflict. We should be grateful if the Security Council supported our call for dialogue with a view to securing national and civil peace.

The establishment in Tajik territory of coalition peace-keeping forces from five States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States was an important step in the de-escalation of the conflict. The Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan, which established these forces, consider them to be a regional arrangement in keeping with the principles of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations. The Security Council should take note of this important fact and express its support for close cooperation between the United Nations and the regional efforts being made within the framework of the Commonwealth to achieve a comprehensive political solution.

The Government of Tajikistan welcomes the interest the Secretary-General of the United Nations has taken in both sides' requests for United Nations assistance in the efforts already in progress. It highly appreciates the efforts of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy, Ambassador Ismat Kittani, and also the unit of United Nations officers in Dushanbe. We should be grateful the mandate of the Special Envoy and of the unit of United Nations officers in Tajikistan could be extended for an additional period beyond its expiration date of 31 October 1993.

The Government and people of Tajikistan are grateful to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme, the International Committee of the Red Cross and other agencies involved in humanitarian work for their useful efforts, and hope that they will continue their efforts in future.

The Government of Tajikistan also sincerely appreciates the willingness of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe to assist in the achievement of national harmony and the creation of democratic institutions in Tajikistan. We hope that the noble efforts of the United Nations, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States will complement each other in a harmonious manner.

We request that the Security Council continue to monitor closely developments in Tajikistan and on its border with Afghanistan and continue to use the means at its disposal to contribute to a political solution.

I should like to request that you convene a meeting of the Security Council to consider this request and adopt an appropriate resolution.

(Signed) Emomali RAKHMONOV
Head of State
Chairman of the Supreme Council
of the Republic of Tajikistan